

## Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

**LD 8**                      **An Act to Allow Hunting from Motor Vehicles for Persons Limited in Their Ability to Walk**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LIBBY	ONTP      MAJ OTP-AM    MIN	

LD 8 proposed to allow any person limited in the ability to walk by arthritis or similar health conditions to hunt from motor vehicles that are not in motion.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-546)**, the minority amendment of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, proposed to amend the bill by changing the word "hunt" to "shoot" and by adding a requirement that the physician who certifies that a person is severely limited in the ability to walk due to an arthritic, neurological or orthopedic condition must be a physician who specializes in the area of that person's disability.

**LD 126**                      **An Act to Expand Maine's Moose Hunt**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KIEFFER CLARK	ONTP	

LD 126 gives the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the authority to issue up to 3,000 moose permits per year beginning in 1999 and further allows moose lottery permittees to name subpermittees at the time that the permit is issued.

**LD 310**                      **An Act to Allow Children to Fish from Shore with a Single Baited Hook and Line on Certain Portions of the Aroostook River**                      **PUBLIC 642  
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KIEFFER DUNLAP	OTP-AM	S-551

LD 310 proposed to require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to list in its special fishing rules all rivers or river segments identified as quality fishing rivers. The bill also proposed to open those quality fishing rivers to fishing during the open fishing season by children under 12 years of age who fish from the bank, using a single baited hook and line.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-551)** proposed to replace the bill and to allows children 12 years of age and younger to fish from shore with a single baited hook and line during the open water fishing season on certain areas of the Aroostook River and its tributaries in Caribou and Fort Fairfield.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 642 allows children 12 years of age or younger to fish from shore with a single baited hook and line during the open water fishing season on certain areas of the Aroostook River and its tributaries in Caribou and Fort Fairfield.

Public Law 1999, chapter 642 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 7, 2000.

**LD 343                      An Act to Protect Deer in Wintering Areas                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHICK KILKELLY	ONTP	

LD 343 proposed to appropriate an additional \$20,000 annually to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for the coyote control program to be used to pay experienced trappers to catch coyotes in areas of the State where coyote predation in deer wintering areas is limiting the department's effort to rebuild the deer herd.

**LD 371                      An Act to Allow A Disabled Person to Use a Crossbow during Archery Hunting Season                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MACK DAVIS P	ONTP	

LD 371 proposed to allow a disabled person to use a crossbow during archery hunting season.

**LD 481                      An Act to Keep Public Lands Open to Hunting, Fishing and Trapping                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KILKELLY DUNLAP	ONTP	

LD 481 proposed to allow hunting, fishing and trapping on all nonreserved public lands, reserved public lands and undeveloped areas within state parks.

**LD 730****An Act to Allow Certain Disabled Persons to Fly-fish With Any Type of Rod and Reel****PUBLIC 632**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY R	OTP-AM	H-887

LD 730 proposed to require the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt rules permitting a physically disabled person to fly-fish with an open-faced reel if that disability would prevent that person from fly-fishing without the use of this type of reel.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-887)** proposed to replace the bill and to allow a person who possesses a valid fishing license and has suffered the physical loss of an arm to use any type of rod and reel to fish with a fly on waters open to fly-fishing. The amendment defined the term "loss of an arm" to mean the physical loss of the arm above the wrist.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 632 allows a person who possesses a valid fishing license and has suffered the physical loss of an arm to use any type of rod and reel to fish with a fly on waters open to fly-fishing. The term "loss of an arm" means the physical loss of the arm above the wrist.

**LD 846****An Act to Allow Elderly License Holders and Children to Fish by Any Method****ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVAGE C	ONTP	

LD 846 proposed to allow elderly license holders and children to take fish by any method.

**LD 971****An Act to Allow Three Hunters to Hunt Deer Together****PUBLIC 588**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PERKINS	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-799

LD 971 allows 3 hunters to hunt deer together without being guilty of driving deer.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-799)**, the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, amends the bill by clarifying that 3 or fewer persons may hunt together without being guilty of driving deer, provided that they do not use noisemaking devices.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 588 allows 3 or fewer persons to hunt together without being guilty of driving deer, provided that they do not use noisemaking devices.

**LD 1026                      An Act to Allow Crossbow Use During Archery Season by a Person who has Lost the Use of a Hand                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> COWGER DOUGLASS	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
---	---------------------------------	---------------------------

LD 1026 proposed to allow a person who has permanently lost the use of one or both hands to use a crossbow during the archery hunting season and during any open season.

**LD 1052                      An Act to Assist Disabled Fly-fishing Anglers                      ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> NUTTING J	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
--------------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------

LD 1052 allows a person with a disability to utilize a spin-casting reel and rod and an artificial fly when fishing in waters designated as fly-fishing-only waters.

**LD 1225                      Resolve, to Direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Review Rules for Compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act                      RESOLVE 101**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BERRY R	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-886
------------------------------	-----------------------------------	------------------------------------

LD 1225 requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to review the departmental rules and regulations to ensure compliance with the federal Americans With Disabilities Act. This resolve also requires the commissioner to report back to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by January 15, 2000 with regard to rule modifications to obtain compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-886)** replaces the resolve. The amendment requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to comprehensively review the issue of expanding hunting and fishing opportunities to disabled persons and to report the findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by January 1, 2001. The report must include a review of the department's current authority to issue unconventional or special privilege licenses for any type of disability, including temporary disabilities, and the criteria and standards used by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to determine eligibility for such licenses. The report must also include recommendations for improving the promotion of hunting and fishing opportunities in the State to the disabled community, on the use of special or group hunts or special seasons for the disabled, on allowing another person to assist a disabled person to hunt or fish and on methods to address any safety issues that may be associated with hunting or fishing by disabled persons.

The amendment also authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to report out a bill on the issue of expanding hunting and fishing opportunities for persons with a disability to the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature.

The amendment adds a fiscal note to the bill.

***Enacted law summary***

Resolve 1999, chapter 101 requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to comprehensively review the issue of expanding hunting and fishing opportunities to disabled persons and to report the findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife by January 1, 2001. The report must include a review of the department's current authority to issue unconventional or special privilege licenses for any type of disability, including temporary disabilities, and the criteria and standards used by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to determine eligibility for such licenses. The report must also include recommendations for improving the promotion of hunting and fishing opportunities in the State to the disabled community, on the use of special or group hunts or special seasons for the disabled, on allowing another person to assist a disabled person to hunt or fish and on methods to address any safety issues that may be associated with hunting or fishing by disabled persons.

This resolve also authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to report out a bill on the issue of expanding hunting and fishing opportunities for persons with a disability to the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature.

<b>LD 1313</b>	<b>An Act to Give the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the Sole Discretion to Determine the Need for and Location of Boat Launches</b>	<b>ONTP</b>
----------------	---	-------------

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> CLARK	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
----------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------

LD 1313 prohibits the construction of a boat launch in the State unless the launch is approved by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

<b>LD 1338</b>	<b>An Act to Provide a Free Hunting License to a Person Who Has Lost the Use of One Arm</b>	<b>ONTP</b>
----------------	---	-------------

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> AHEARNE	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
------------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------

LD 1338 allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue complimentary hunting and fishing licenses to a Maine resident who suffers from the loss of the use of one arm.

**LD 1370**

**An Act to Reduce the Age at which a Maine Citizen May Obtain a Free Fishing and Hunting License and to Provide Free Licenses for Military Personnel**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACOBS	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 1370 allows a resident of the State who is 65 years of age or older to receive a free hunting and fishing license. The bill also allows a person who is in active military service to receive a free hunting and fishing license.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-806)**, the minority amendment, amends the bill by striking the section of the bill that reduces the age at which a citizen of the State may obtain a free fishing and hunting license. The amendment also changes the title and adds a fiscal note to the bill.

**LD 1390**

**An Act to Expand Hunting Options for Disabled Military Veterans**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BRAGDON	ONTP	

LD 1390 allows disabled veterans to receive complimentary antlerless deer permits and one-time complimentary moose hunting permits.

**LD 1435**

**An Act to Promote Equitable and Professional Management of Moose**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
USHER	ONTP	

LD 1435 amends the moose hunting statutes to allow the number of permits to hunt moose to be based on current information available rather than set limits. It also changes the fee amounts for the permits and applications, as well as assigning money from the applications to youth conservation education programs. It repeals sections that establish public auctions for moose hunting permits.

<b>LD 1830</b>	<b>An Act to Provide Complimentary Hunting and Fishing Licenses to Persons on Active Military Duty and Low-cost Licenses to Their Families</b>	<b>ONTP</b>
----------------	--	-------------

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> COWGER	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
-----------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------

LD 1830 proposed to provide a complimentary hunting and fishing license to a member of the Armed Forces of the United States on active duty whose home of record is Maine and to allow that person's family members to purchase that license for \$15, plus the issuing fee.

<b>LD 1904</b>	<b>Resolve, to Study Issues Related to the Muzzle-loading Season</b>	<b>ONTP</b>
----------------	--	-------------

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BUMPS	<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
----------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------

LD 1904 proposed to authorize a study within existing resources of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to address various issues relating to the muzzle-loading season.

<b>LD 2274</b>	<b>An Act to Clarify the Authority of Maine Game Wardens to Stop Motor Vehicles</b>	<b>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</b>
----------------	---	----------------------------

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> DUNLAP	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM    MAJ ONTP        MIN	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
-----------------------------	---	---------------------------

LD 2274 proposed to repeal a sunset on a provision of law allowing game wardens to stop vehicles if it is necessary to protect a person from the threat of death or personal injury.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-800)** was the majority report of the committee and proposed to clarify that, while game wardens have the same powers as sheriffs, including the authority to stop a motor vehicle if there is a reasonable and articulable suspicion of a violation of law or to protect public safety, game wardens' primary responsibilities lie in the enforcement of laws protecting fish and wildlife.

Although this bill died between houses, a bill submitted by the Governor (see summary for LD 2691) addressing this issue was enacted as Public Law of 1999, chapter 738.

**LD 2284****An Act to Maintain the Eel and Elver Management Fund and  
Regulate Permits for Eel Weirs****PUBLIC 549**Sponsor(s)  
DUNLAPCommittee Report  
OTPAmendments Adopted

LD 2284 proposed to maintain the Eel and Elver Management Fund as well as the moratorium on permitting eel weirs that was enacted in 1996 and to authorize the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt routine technical rules regulating the issuance of eel weir permits.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 549 authorizes the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt routine technical rules regulating the issuance of eel weir permits.

**LD 2310****An Act to Change the Name in the Statutes of a Native American  
Organization Able to Issue Hunting and Fishing Licenses****PUBLIC 558  
EMERGENCY**Sponsor(s)  
PARADIS  
MARTINCommittee Report  
OTPAmendments Adopted

LD 2310 proposed to change the name of the organization that issues hunting, trapping and fishing licenses to Native Americans from the Central Maine Indian Association to "Wesget-Suppo."

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 558 changes the name of the organization that issues hunting, trapping and fishing licenses to Native Americans from the Central Maine Indian Association to "Wesget-Suppo." This reference was corrected to "Wesget-Sipu" in Public Law 1999, chapter 790, the Judiciary Committee's Errors and Inconsistencies bill (see Judiciary Committee summaries, LD 2334).

Public Law 1999, chapter 558 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 15, 2000.

**LD 2346****An Act to Extend the Time Period for Municipalities to Make  
Recommendations Concerning Great Pond Surface Use Restrictions****PUBLIC 701  
EMERGENCY**Sponsor(s)  
THOMPSONCommittee Report  
OTP-AMAmendments Adopted  
H-883  
S-571 TREAT

LD 2346 proposed to extend by one year the time period in which municipalities can make recommendations to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife about surface use restrictions on great ponds within or bordering on those municipalities.



**Committee Amendment "A" (H-883)** was the majority report of the committee and proposed to extend until December 1, 2000 the deadline for municipalities to submit recommendations to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife on great pond surface use restrictions. The amendment proposed that initial recommendation packages in 2000 may be submitted only during July, although material supplementing any municipality's recommendations may be submitted until December 1, 2000.

This amendment also proposed to require that towns include a written explanation of the rationale for each recommendation and an explanation of what issues were considered in the development of each recommendation and requires that in a town whose legislative body is the town meeting, recommendations may only be considered and approved during the annual town meeting held pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 2525.

**Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-571)** extended until December 1, 2001 the period during which municipalities may submit recommendations for regulating the use, operation and type of watercraft on great ponds.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 701, extends until December 1, 2001 the deadline for municipalities to submit recommendations to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife on great pond surface use restrictions. Initial recommendations in 2000 may be submitted only during July, although material supplementing any municipality's recommendations may be submitted until December 1, 2001. Those recommendations will be considered by the Legislature in the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature.

This public law also requires that towns include a written explanation of the rationale for each recommendation and an explanation of what issues were considered in the development of each recommendation and requires that in a town whose legislative body is the town meeting, recommendations may only be considered and approved during the annual town meeting held pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 2525.

Public Law 1999, chapter 701 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 14, 2000.

**LD 2386**

**An Act to Allow Deer Hunting with Local Approval in Certain Areas Previously Permanently Closed to Deer Hunting**

**PUBLIC 636**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOLDTHWAIT VOLENIK	OTP-AM	S-575

LD 2386 proposed to establish a deer hunting season in the Town of Cranberry Isles in order to address deer overpopulation of 5 islands in this community.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-575)** proposed to replace the bill and change the title of the bill. The amendment proposed to clarify that a permit is required from the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in order for a person or persons to assist the commissioner in the taking and destroying of wildlife, repeal the requirement that special hunts take place between the close of the special muzzle-loading season

and January 31st and repeal the statutory prohibition on deer hunting in wildlife sanctuaries. The amendment also proposed to allow the commissioner to provide for an open season on deer in certain areas previously permanently closed to deer hunting if the affected towns approved of the opening. The amendment also proposed to allow, after July 1, 2001, deer hunting with shotgun or archery equipment on the Cranberry Isles under all applicable laws and regulations. The amendment also proposed to direct the commissioner to hold a depredation hunt for deer on the Cranberry Isles before holding any open season on those islands.

#### ***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 636, clarifies that a permit is required from the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in order for a person or persons to assist the commissioner in the taking and destroying of wildlife, repeals the requirement that special hunts take place between the close of the special muzzle-loading season and January 31st and repeals the statutory prohibition on deer hunting in wildlife sanctuaries. This public law also allows the commissioner to provide for an open season on deer in certain areas previously permanently closed to deer hunting if the affected towns approve of the opening. The public law also allows, after July 1, 2001, deer hunting with shotgun or archery equipment on the Cranberry Isles under all applicable laws and regulations and directs the commissioner to hold a depredation hunt for deer on the Cranberry Isles before holding any open season on those islands.

**LD 2468**

**An Act to Establish the Watercraft Enforcement Fund**

**ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCKEE PINGREE	ONTP	

LD 2468 was a concept draft which proposed to establish a Watercraft Enforcement Fund administered by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to be used to support boating enforcement.

**LD 2579**

**An Act to Provide an Angling Season for Atlantic Salmon**

**DIED BETWEEN  
BODIES**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RUHLIN DUNLAP	ONTP MAJ OTP-AM MIN	

LD 2579 proposed to allow a person to angle for and release unharmed Atlantic salmon from Maine waters from May 1st to July 5th and from the Sunday before Labor Day to October 10th.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-590)** was the minority report of the committee and proposed to replace the bill and to designate the Penobscot River upstream of the Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain Bridge connecting the cities of Bangor and Brewer, the St. Croix River and the Saco River as Atlantic salmon restoration rivers. The amendment also proposed to establish catch and release fly-fishing only seasons for Atlantic salmon on those rivers. The amendment also proposed prohibiting the Atlantic Salmon

Commission from adopting rules placing limits on seasons or methods of taking Atlantic salmon on those rivers that are more restrictive than those established in this amendment.

<b>LD 2603</b>	<b>Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 25: Leashed Tracking Dog License Rules, Major Substantive Rules of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife</b>	<b>RESOLVE 95 EMERGENCY</b>
----------------	--	---------------------------------

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
		OTP		

LD 2603 proposed to authorize final adoption of Chapter 25 of the rules of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pertaining to leashed tracking dog licenses.

***Enacted law summary***

Resolve 1999, chapter 95 approves major substantive rules of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Chapter 25, Leashed Tracking Dog License Rules.

Resolve 1999, chapter 95 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective March 30, 2000.

<b>LD 2622</b>	<b>Resolve, Authorizing the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Allow a Well and Waterline Easement</b>	<b>RESOLVE 102 EMERGENCY</b>
----------------	--	----------------------------------

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>		<u>Committee Report</u>		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BENOIT		OTP		

LD 2622 proposed to authorize the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to enter into an amendment of the conservation easement in the Rangeley River conservation corridor to allow the Department of Environmental Protection to develop a potable water supply for residents of Oquossoc Village in Rangeley.

***Enacted law summary***

Resolve 1999, chapter 102 authorizes the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to enter into an amendment of the conservation easement in the Rangeley River conservation corridor to allow the Department of Environmental Protection to develop a potable water supply for residents of Oquossoc Village in Rangeley.

Resolve 1999, chapter 102 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 7, 2000.

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments Adopted

S-778 MICHAUD

LD 2645 is a unanimous bill reported by the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to a Joint Order.

The resolve proposed to create the 15-member Commission to Study Equity in the Distribution of Gas Tax Revenues Attributable to Snowmobiles, All-terrain Vehicles and Watercraft. The proposed duties of the commission are:

1. To undertake a comprehensive effort to collect and analyze all existing data regarding the amount and type of fuel purchased for and consumed within this State by snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles and motorboats and of fuel purchased in this State for those vehicles and consumed outside the jurisdiction of this State. The commission shall identify areas where such information is either incomplete or out of date or has not yet been collected and shall undertake such research as is necessary and within its resources to collect and update that information;
2. Based upon an analysis of the data collected, to determine the percentage of gasoline taxes collected under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, section 2903 that is paid on gasoline consumed by snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles and motorboats;
3. To assess the needs within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Department of Conservation and the Department of Marine Resources for enforcement of existing snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle and watercraft laws; assess the capital needs for equipment or facilities for maintenance of trails or access to land or water; and determine how existing revenues received for snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle and watercraft programs are used within those departments;
4. To seek input from the public; and from organizations representing snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle and watercraft users, including the Maine Snowmobile Association, the University of Maine Agricultural Research Station and the Maine Marine Trade Association; and from other interested persons or organizations. In seeking that input, the commission shall, within its budgeted resources, hold its meetings in geographically diverse locations throughout the State;
5. To review a strategic boating plan developed by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Department of Conservation and the Department of Marine Resources. Those departments are required to jointly prepare and submit to the commission a strategic boating plan that includes a plan for meeting the future freshwater and saltwater access and enforcement needs of the State; and
6. To collect other data and make such other recommendations as the commission considers appropriate on the issue of off-road fuel consumption.

The resolve proposed that the commission submit its report, along with any implementing legislation, to the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature no later than November 1, 2000. The bill also proposed an

appropriation for the per diem and expenses of legislative members of the commission and other expenses of the commission, including expenses for meeting notices and printing of the required report.

**Senate Amendment "A" (S-778)** proposed to strike and replace the bill and to clarify the appointment of members to the study commission.

***Enacted law summary***

Resolve 1999, chapter 131 creates the 15-member Commission to Study Equity in the Distribution of Gas Tax Revenues Attributable to Snowmobiles, All-terrain Vehicles and Watercraft. The duties of the commission are to undertake a comprehensive effort to collect and analyze all existing data regarding the amount and type of fuel purchased for and consumed within this State by snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles and motorboats and of fuel purchased in this State for those vehicles and consumed outside the jurisdiction of this State. The commission is required to submit its report, along with any implementing legislation, to the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature no later than November 1, 2000.

Resolve 1999, chapter 131 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 10, 2000.

**LD 2670**

**An Act Regarding Lifetime Hunting and Fishing Licenses**

**PUBLIC 690  
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report  
OTP

Amendments Adopted  
H-1064 DUNLAP

LD 2670 is reported out unanimously by the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to House Paper 1866.

The bill proposed to make lifetime hunting and fishing licenses available in January of 2001 for residents from 6 to 15 years of age, inclusive. The bill also proposed a sliding scale fee for the existing senior lifetime licenses and clarifies that persons 70 years of age or older remain entitled to a complimentary lifetime hunting and fishing license.

The bill also proposed that adult lifetime hunting and fishing licenses be available in January of 2006 for persons from 16 to 64 years of age and requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit its recommendations for a fee structure for such licenses to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters in January of 2005. That committee may then report out a bill to the first regular session of the 122nd Legislature to implement a fee structure for the adult lifetime hunting and fishing licenses.

**House Amendment "A" (H-1064)** proposed to strike the appropriation section and revise the fiscal note.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law, chapter 690, makes lifetime hunting and fishing licenses available in January of 2001 for residents from 6 to 15 years of age, inclusive, creates a sliding scale fee for the existing senior lifetime licenses and clarifies that persons 70 years of age or older remain entitled to a complimentary lifetime hunting and fishing license.

This law also establishes that adult lifetime hunting and fishing licenses be available in January of 2006 for persons from 16 to 64 years of age and requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife submit its recommendations for a fee structure for such licenses to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters in January of 2005. That committee may then report out a bill to the first regular session of the 122nd Legislature to implement a fee structure for the adult lifetime hunting and fishing licenses.

Public Law, chapter 690 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 13, 2000.

**LD 2671**

**An Act to Implement Municipal Recommendations Regarding  
Surface Water Use on Great Ponds**

**PUBLIC 697  
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report  
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted  
S-639 GOLDTHWAIT

LD 2671 was reported out by a majority of the members of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to House Paper 1840.

This bill proposed to implement municipal recommendations regarding surface water use on great ponds (see enacted law summary for details).

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-1030)**, the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, proposed the same measures as did the majority report except that it proposed to remove from the bill surface water use recommendations on 11 great ponds that were rejected by the subcommittee that reviewed the initial recommendations but were subsequently included in the bill by a majority vote of the committee.

**Senate Amendment "A" (S-639)** proposed to prohibit the operation of personal watercraft on Somes Pond, Long Pond and Little Long Pond.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 697 prohibits the operation of personal watercraft on Megunticook Lake in the Town of Camden, the Town of Hope and the Town of Lincolnville; on Hobbs Pond, Fish Pond and Alford Lake in the Town of Hope; on Norton Pond and Coleman Pond in the Town of Lincolnville; on Pitcher Pond in the Town of Lincolnville and the Town of Northport; on Torsey Lake in the Town of Mount Vernon and the Town of Readfield; on Trickey Pond in the Town of Naples; between sunset and 9:00 a.m. on Brandy Pond in the Town of Naples; on Fulton Lake in the Town of Northfield; on Knight Pond in the Town of Northport; on Moose Pond and Saturday Pond in the Town of Otisfield; on Tripp Pond, Upper Range Pond and Middle Range Pond in the Town of Poland; on Keewaydin Lake, Virginia Lake, Trout Pond, Weymouth Pond and Whitney Pond in the Town of Stoneham; on Lermond Pond in the Town of Union and the Town of Hope; on Pocasset Lake and Pickerel Pond in the Town of Wayne; on Androscoggin Lake in the Town of Wayne and the Town of Leeds; on Little Cobbosseecontee Lake in the Town of Winthrop, on Somes Pond and Little Long Pond in the Town of Mount Desert and on Long Pond in the Towns of Mount Desert and Southwest Harbor.

The bill also prohibits the operation of watercraft at greater than headway speed within 1/2 mile of the boat launches located on the north and south ends of Torsey Lake in the Town of Mount Vernon and the Town of Readfield, prohibits the operation of a watercraft equipped with a motor greater than 10 horsepower on Cold Rain Pond in the Town of Naples and on Holt Pond in the Town of Naples and the Town of Bridgton and prohibits the operation of a watercraft equipped with a motor greater than 5 horsepower on Moose Pond in the Town of Otisfield. A prohibition on the operation of watercraft at greater than headway speed on Pickerel Pond in the Town of Wayne was added by PL 1999, chapter 790, the errors and inconsistencies legislation (see Judiciary Committee's bill summaries, LD 2334).

The bill also prohibits the operation of a rented or leased personal watercraft on Brandy Pond in the Town of Naples and on Long Lake in the Town of Naples, the Town of Bridgton and the Town of Harrison unless that personal watercraft has a decal affixed to it that identifies the rental agent.

Public Law 1999, chapter 697 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 13, 2000.

**LD 2691**

**An Act to Clarify the Law Enforcement Authority of Game Wardens**

**PUBLIC 738  
EMERGENCY**

Sponsor(s)  
KILKELLY

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 2691 proposed to clarify the law enforcement authority of game wardens. See LD 2274, a similar bill.

***Enacted law summary***

Public Law 1999, chapter 738 amends the laws delineating wardens' powers to provide authority to stop a motor vehicle or watercraft, as those terms are defined in the fish and wildlife laws, only when the warden is in uniform and has reasonable and articulable suspicion to believe that a violation has taken place or is taking place. This power is consistent with the general authority of law enforcement officers to stop motor vehicles under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A.

This law authorizes game wardens to make regulatory stops to determine compliance with license, permit, equipment or other requirements or restrictions when the following circumstances exist:

1. The game warden is in uniform;
2. The person is in the act of hunting, fishing or trapping; and
3. The person is not in or on a motor vehicle. The definition of "motor vehicle" in the fish and wildlife laws excludes motorboats but includes all other motor-driven vehicles.

This law also clarifies that wardens have the authority to establish checkpoints to collect statistics and determine compliance with the fish and wildlife laws. Such checkpoints must be established pursuant to policy established by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Current law authorizes wardens to issue citations and prosecute violations and to seize fish and wildlife unlawfully taken.

Finally, this law states that wardens' primary responsibility is enforcement of laws protecting fish and wildlife.

Public Law 1999, chapter 738 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 25, 2000.



## LD INDEX

LD 8.....	1	LD 1435 .....	6
LD 126.....	1	LD 1830 .....	7
LD 310.....	1	LD 1904 .....	7
LD 343.....	2	LD 2274 .....	7
LD 371.....	2	LD 2284 .....	8
LD 481.....	2	LD 2310 .....	8
LD 730.....	3	LD 2346 .....	8
LD 846.....	3	LD 2386 .....	9
LD 971.....	3	LD 2468 .....	10
LD 1026.....	4	LD 2579 .....	10
LD 1052.....	4	LD 2603 .....	11
LD 1225.....	4	LD 2622 .....	11
LD 1313.....	5	LD 2645 .....	12
LD 1338.....	5	LD 2670 .....	13
LD 1370.....	6	LD 2671 .....	14
LD 1390.....	6	LD 2691 .....	15